

15. (Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said fullerene comprises a C₆₀ fullerene.

(a)
Sub B2
16. (Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said catalyst is combined with said fullerene.

(a)
Sub B3
17. (Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said catalyst comprises one of Ni and Co.

(a)
18. (Amended) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 17, wherein said laser irradiation target comprises between 4.5 % and 5.5% catalyst.

Please add the following new claims:

(a)
19. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said catalyst comprises a transition metal.

(a)
20. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said catalyst is separately provided from said fullerene.

(a)
Sub B4
21. (New) The laser irradiation target according to claim 13, wherein said fullerene comprises a plurality of five-membered carbon rings and a plurality of six membered carbon rings.

(a)
Sub B5
22. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said fullerene

Sub 34 ~~15~~ comprises a six-membered carbon ring.

23. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said fullerene comprises a spherical fullerene.

24. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said laser ablation comprises a low temperature laser ablation.

Sub 35 25. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 13, wherein said laser ablation comprises a short pulse-width laser ablation.

26. (New) A laser irradiation target for the manufacture of carbon nanotubes by laser ablation, said target comprising:

a fullerene powder; and

a catalyst powder associated with said fullerene powder.

27. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 26, wherein said catalyst powder is mixed together with said fullerene powder.

Sub 35 28. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 27, wherein said fullerene powder and said catalyst powder are pressed together in the form of a pellet.

29. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 26, wherein said fullerene powder

comprises pure polycrystalline powder of C₆₀ fullerene.

30. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 26, wherein said catalyst powder comprises at least one of Ni and Co.

~~31. (New) The laser irradiation target as claimed in claim 26, wherein said laser irradiation target comprises 5 at % catalyst powder.~~

32. (New) A laser irradiation target comprising:

(a)
Sub B6
a fullerene; and

a catalyst associated with said fullerene,

wherein said target forms a carbon nanotube when subjected to a laser ablation.

33. (New) A method of manufacturing carbon nanotubes, comprising:

providing a laser target comprising a fullerene and a catalyst, said catalyst associated with said fullerene compound; and
laser ablating said laser target.

Sub B1
34. (New) A laser irradiation target, comprising:

a non-graphite three dimensional structure of carbon atoms having a plurality of 5-membered carbon rings and a substantially hollow truncated-icosahedron geometric shape with a substantially curved surface; and

a catalyst.